

FLIGHT OF LOCUSTS.

Instantly They Make an Oasis a Desert.

The Syrian Peasants Take An Epicurean Revenge.

Were sitting on the hills with our backs turned to the west wind, which was safely blowing from the Mediterranean, says Sir Edwin Arnold in the London Telegraph. The horses were picketed close by, grazing the sweet mountain grass. The Arabs of our caravan were cooking a "pillow" a little distance off. Around us were laid out the wherewithals of a light lunch, among which was an open marmalade jar.

I was thinking of Ahab, and wondering how he could put up so long with Elijah, especially when, on this very spot, the prophet said to the king, "As the Lord liveth, in this place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, shall dogs lick thy blood—even thine!"—when suddenly right into the marmalade there dropped what I took to be a grasshopper. It was yellow and green, with long jumping legs and a big head, and while I was taking it out of the jar two others fell into a plate of soup, and half a dozen more of the same kind upon a dish of salad. At the same moment my horse stamped violently, and I saw more of these grasshoppers pelting his hooks and haunches. Turning round to find whence this insect shower came I witnessed what was to me an extraordinary spectacle, though common enough, of course, in the east. A large cloud, denser in its lower than its upper part, filled an eighth part of the western hemisphere. The remotest portion of it was as thick, as brown and brumous as a London fog. The nearer side opened suddenly up into millions and billions and trillions and sextillions of the same green and yellow insects pelting in a close-winged crowd quite as thickly as flakes of snow upon all the hillsides far and near. You could not stand a moment against the aggressive and offensive rain of these buzzing creatures. The horses even swung themselves round and stood with lowered crests, taking the storm upon their backs and flanks.

You had to turn up the collar of your coat to keep them out of your neck and button the front not to have your pockets filled with the repulsive swarm, which in two minutes had so peppered the whole scene round about that its color and character were entirely altered. Every little creature of the interminable flight on alighting veered himself round head to wind on the earth, just as if he had dropped anchor and swung to the breeze; and it was curious to notice that the general tint of the ground of their countless bodies was brown if you looked to windward and green if you gazed to leeward. But very quickly the only green to be seen round about was the hue afforded by this sudden invasion. Even while we prepared to yield up the spot to them and pack our lunch baskets for departure they had cleared off grass and leaves and every verdant thing around; and when they rose again from the soil or from any clump of trees, in a hungry throng, the place they quitted had already assumed a barren and wintry aspect. The Syrian peasants passing along the roads were beating their breasts and cursing the ill fortune of the plague. Some of them, none the less, gathered up a cloth full of the noxious things; for the locust is distinctly edible. Half in wrath and revenge, and half for a novelty of diet, the Arabs to this day eat a few of them, roasting them in wire nets or in earthen vessels over a slow fire till the wings and legs drop off and the locust becomes crisp, in which state it tastes, as I am able to say from personal experience, something like an unsalted prawn. But it seemed as if, had all Syria and the globe itself taken to living on locusts, they would have hardly made a sensible mark upon the extraordinary number that drifted over our heads.

Queerest Canines in the World.

Just think of a collection of five dogs, each canine possessing only two legs, says the Cincinnati Enquirer. That is the remarkable possession of C. W. Zinn, a switchman in the employ of the C. H. & D. Railroad Company. Mary and John, the head of the family, were ushered into the world two years ago minus their front legs. Handicapped as they are most dogs would lie down and grieve themselves to death. But Mary and John didn't do anything of the sort. When but a few weeks old they displayed wonderful agility, and it was not long before they proved themselves equal to the emergency which nature had

forced upon them. They soon learned to stand erect and hop along as easily as their more fortunate four-footed companions would.

Lart July Mary became a mother, and her offspring proved to be also of the "walk-standing" variety. This pup was named Colonel. The Colonel became quite famous, and hundreds of visitors went to his kennel to see the youngster and his biped parents. He grew to be quite a husky youth, but departed his two-legged life on the 31st of last December in a fit of hiccoughs. Mr. Zinn felt his loss very keenly, but last Sunday his grief gave way to joy, for Mrs. Mary, like the good mother that she is, presented her master with three puppies, two males and a female, each one having only two legs. They have been named Pat, Dan and Bridget. Pat is a brindle, the exact counterpart of his father, John, while Bridget is a pocket edition of her mother. Dan is a sort of composite of the parents—neutral, as it were, in color.

The parents of the queer little family are brother and sister. John is a brindle, and Mary's hair is a delicate shade of yellow. They are quite small. Their mode of locomotion is remarkably graceful, and from all appearances Mary and John are never inconvenienced through being "short" in the matter of legs.

Drew the Line at Colonels.

Colonel William M. Olin, the secretary of the commonwealth, distinguished himself the other evening at the dinner of the New England Club of the Delta Upsilon, by telling half-a-dozen really excellent stories. The one I most distinctly remember has never appeared in print, so far as I know.

Mr. Olin was speaking of the ease with which the soldiers of the great armies of both the North and the South returned to their homes to take up again their regular pursuit, after the war was over.

"One summer," said he, "a few years after the war, Colonel Higginson was travelling in the South, and he got to talking with a farmer in some little town, who employing a considerable number of men at his haying. The farmer told Colonel Higginson that most of them were old—Confederate soldiers.

"You see over there, where those four men are working?" asked he. "Well, all of 'em fought in the war. One of 'em was a private, one of 'em was a corporal, one was a major, and that man 'way over in the corner was a colonel."

"Are they good men?" asked Colonel Higginson.

"Well," said the farmer, "that private's a first-class man, and the corporal is pretty good, too."

"But how about the major and the colonel?"

"The major so-so," said the farmer. "But the colonel?"

"Well, I don't want to say nothin' against any man who was a colonel in the war," said the farmer, "but I've made up my mind I won't hire no brigadier-generals."—[Boston Herald.

A Laugh on the Girls.

A good joke was played on the girls of Marion recently by the young men of that town. The boys had been rather remiss in their attentions to the young ladies and had been "stagging" it to the theatre, parties, etc., until the girls got tired of being left out in the cold, and decided to show their independence. Consequently fifteen of the girls hired a box at the theatre and made a very charming theatre party. The play was, "Wanted; A Husband," and the girls sat serene through it all, never dreaming that the wicked boys had taken one of the largest flaring posters: "Wanted; A Husband," and fastened it around the box so that all the audience might read.—[Indianapolis Sentinel.

An Improvement.

"Isn't Willie Wibbles a terribly poor conversationalist?" said Mand.

"Yes," replied Mamie; "but he's ever so much better than he used to be."

"I wonder what the cause is."

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

AN EXPENSIVE FANCY.
A lady recently wore her hair confined in a net studded with diamonds and real pearls. It was much remarked upon, but not universally admired. A good many smart women are turning their hair straight back from their foreheads, leaving of their fringes only a tendril here and there. The change makes as much difference in female physiognomy as shaving off the mustache does in the male, and consequently mere acquaintances who have adopted it are a little difficult to identify.—[New York World.

SOME BEAUTIFUL FANS.

The new fans this season are marvels of beauty and are highly suggestive of zephyrs and butterfly wings. The leaves are of mousseline de soie, exquisitely painted and richly studded with tiny gold paillettes.

A charming novelty is the illusion tulle insertions, between the rows of point lace, which permit the owners to observe a la cachette. A lovely fan is of pink and white chiffon decorated with a spray of yellow jessamine crossed with arabesque in gold.

A delicate heliotrope fan has painted on the point lace bunches of violets. A debutante fan has a sweet armour flying from one of Beauty's Queens. The ivory carving of the stick is the new style, which is very fine.—[New York Mail and Express.

GIRLS RASING MUSTACHES.

A London Society journal says: "The recent visit of the Infanta Eulalia of Spain to the United States has supplied the fashionable damsels of that country with a new and distinctly startling craze, nothing less, in fact, than an attempt to cultivate a mustache. Like most Spanish women the Infanta possesses just the slightest shadow of down upon her upper lip, which in persons of rich Southern blood often constitutes a charm.

"The American girl, however, with her fair, clear complexion, would never look anything but ridiculous in a mustache, and her attempts, therefore, to cultivate it are rare, not only particularly foolish, but afford a striking instance of the snobbish worship of blue blood which characterizes this great Republic."

THE POPULAR SHIRT WAIST.

The shirt waist will hold its own this season, and no sensible girl will be without a goodly supply of them, made in cotton or silk goods. In cotton goods, percale, Madras, lawn, nainsook and dimity make up prettily and have the advantage that they can always be washed and made to look fresh and clean. They are the neatest and most comfortable and cleanly garment that can be worn and look new every time they are laundered. Make them unlined and with the bag seams, and shirt or mutton-legs sleeves. Use only shoulder side seams, and cut sufficiently low to set well below the belt skirt. Have a high-rolled collar, or if you like a stiff collar and cuffs like the tailor-made shirts, but never have much starch in the rest of the garment. No trimming is appropriate but the good embroidery, or plain chambray, such, for instance, as collars and belt and cuffs of plain blue, on a blue and white percale, or plain collared lawn on an all white one. The plainer the waist the more stylish it is, provided the fit and material are correct, the belt and necktie what they should be, and the color becoming to the wearer.—[New Orleans Picayune.

FLUSH EMBROIDERY.

By the use of plush embroidery, sumac, cockscomb, goldenrod, princess feather and similar flowers, which were previously very imperfectly represented by a bunch of knot stitches, are closely imitated in texture as well as in coloring. To make it fit fill in the flower with large knot stitches of the prevailing color; then (using buttonhole twist) bring the needle up between the knots, lay a double strand of filling silk on the face of the work against the needle; take the needle down in about the same place it came up, but from the other side of the filling silk, so that when drawn down the stitch has caught the filling silk one-fourth of an inch from its end; draw the stitch down tightly, which will cause the ends of the filling silk to spring straight up; clip them off with a very sharp pair of scissors. This completes one stitch. Repeat for as many stitches as are required to cover or nearly cover the knots. It is not easily described, but with a little practice is easily and rapidly done, and with taste and judgment in the clipping, and in the number of stitches used, so as to partly, not completely, cover the background of knots, good

effects are produced. Make cockscomb a rich, velvety crimson.

BLACK AND WHITE LACES.

Delicate white laces are cleaned with calcined magnesia. Spread the lace on a sheet of writing paper, sprinkle it well on both sides with the magnesia, place a second piece of paper over it, put away between the leaves of a book for three days and then shake off the powder to find the lace perfectly clean. Laces are given a creamy hue by putting strained coffee or powdered saffron in the rinsing water until the right cream or ceruflinge is produced. White silk laces are soaked in milk over night, then soused in warm soapsuds, rinsed and finally pulled out and carefully pinned down while damp. Laces must be soused, gently squeezed and clapped between the hands until dry or nearly so. Laces may be whitened by letting them stand covered with soapsuds in the sun. Fine bread crumbs rubbed on will clean lace that is not very much soiled. White cotton laces are washed in warm soapsuds, well rinsed, then boiled, rinsed again, clapped nearly dry and pinned down on a smooth bed, over a clean towel; every point of the scallops should be pinned. If laces are ironed, which the best cleaners do not approve of, the ironing should be done over a soft flannel cloth, and with a cloth between the iron and lace. Black lace may be freshened with a teaspoonful of borax to a pint of warm water, using an old black glove for a sponge and pinning it down to dry; if ironed do it on the wrong side, over black cambric. Borax, coffee, diluted alcohol and the water in which a black kid glove has been boiled are all excellent renovators for black lace. Green tea is also a favorite wash for lace. Avoid drying black lace near the fire, as heat is apt to turn it rusty. Gold and silver laces are cleaned with part of a loaf of stale bread mixed with a quarter of a pound of powder blue, rubbing the bread fine and mixing the blue with it. Sprinkle thickly over the lace and in a short time it will brighten, then brush off the crumbs with a piece of flannel and rub softly with a piece of red velvet.—[Ladies' Home Journal.

FASHION NOTES.

Black and white appear in large patterned brocades.

Phenaght brown will be a fashionable shade among browns.

Anne of Austria collarettes in lace and guipure are very fashionable.

Anarchist bonnets are flat-shaped, with little round high velvet covered crowns.

Sleeves and skirts in spring fashions match, but bodices are to be in contrast.

An up-to-date fad is the utilizing of a miniature fac-simile of an idol as a watch charm.

A sensible dress for town or country wear is toast brown cloth trimmed with black fox.

Black trimmings will prevail, and crepon is rumored as the favorite material for dresses.

In the spring millinery pale blue consorts with violet and bluish-gray hyacinth and pink.

Some of the new capes are of the Charles II. period, having double frills of moire and velvet, with handsome jet trimmings.

Black, brown, dark green and navy blue will be the colors in jackets. These will have full skirts and collarettes and very large sleeves.

Colored stones are in the ascendancy with a vengeance. Among them amethysts are predominant, especially for wire bangles with hearts and other devices.

The properly fitted and "swell" gaiter for spring has a lining of satin, the cloth being very thin but costly and the buttons so closely set as to render the unfastening a task.

Fabrics resembling in appearance tailor-made suitings are seen in granite grounds, with combination color effects of tan, mid-brown, myrtle, sage, eern, rosada, cadet blue, mauve, old rose, coffee, and light shades of green.

The butterfly back is the latest thing. The back of the skirt is made quiet long and raised in the center the fullness forming winglike puffs just below the waist, simulating the out spread wings of the butterfly, hence the name.

A hair receiver may be made of white linen, embroidered in some slight design, lined with silk and folded to a triangular shape, then overlaid together. If the maker chooses it can be punched for eylet holes and laced together with a narrow silk cord. This enables the quite necessary taking apart and frequent washing.

KEYSTONE STATE CULLINGS

A RULING ON DOCTORS.

STATE MEDICAL COUNCIL BARS OUT ALL BUT NEW YORK APPLICANTS.
HARRISBURG.—The State Medical Council decided that no applications for license to practice medicine and surgery in this State will be considered except those from this State and New York, for the reason that other States having examining boards do not require a sufficiently high standard of medical proficiency to meet the requirements of the new Pennsylvania law, and others have no legislation at all on the subject. The annual examination of applicants for license will begin June 11 next. The allopaths will be examined on the same dates in Philadelphia and Pittsburg, the homeopaths in Philadelphia and the eclectics in this city. June 1 the medical council will meet to decide on the questions to be asked applicants.

STOCKING THE STREAMS.

HARRISBURG.—The Pennsylvania fish commission is doing much to replenish fished out streams. Monday it sent its car out from the hatchery loaded with 130,000 young trout for distribution, divided as follows among the various counties: Westmoreland 32,000; Cambria 45,000; Huntingdon, 8,000; Blair 5,000; Jefferson 7,000; Clearfield 66,000; Center 6,000; Warren 12,000 and Crawford 12,000. The Allentown hatchery has done its share toward restocking the streams of the eastern counties.

TWO MEN KILLED AT A SAFETY GATE.

WILKESBARRE.—John Phoenix and Samuel Young, when on their way home from work stepped into the safety gates of the Pennsylvania railroad crossing to wait the passage of a freight train. A runaway horse dashed into the gates and the flying wood struck the two men and hurled them under the wheels of the train. Both were killed.

THE MAHONING STATE LINE RAILROAD.

BEAVER FALLS.—The Mahoning State Line railroad will be built this summer. This is a branch line five miles in length, running from Lowellville, Ohio, to Hillsville, Pa., tapping the immense limestone fields in that vicinity. One bridge 200 feet long will have to be built.

THREE CHILDREN DIE IN FLAMES.

SCRANTON.—By the burning of Philip Schneider's dwelling in South Scranton three of his children, who were in an upper room, were burned to death. The fire originated from a defective fuse and spread rapidly, enveloping the building in flames before help could reach the children.

PENSIONS GRANTED.

At Washington the following pensions have been granted by the department of the interior to citizens of Pennsylvania: Original, William Schmidt, Allegheny; original widows, etc., Ursula Zilch, Corry; Ann J. Lusas, Bellefonte.

The West Virginia State Encampment of the G. A. R. was in session at Parkersburg. Four thousand old soldiers were in attendance. F. H. Crago, of Wheeling, was elected Commander.

Is a collision on the Williamsport and North Branch railroad at Pennsville, Pa., Miriam F. Walsh was killed and Mrs. Bailey and John Cleathman injured.

ALBERT TORRENCE, a dairyman at New Sheffield, Beaver county, was attacked by a mad bull and severely gored. He will recover.

The annual reunion of poets forming the Northwestern Pennsylvania association of G. A. R. will occur in Oil City on June 28.

J. C. McCLEARY, of Altoona, died of lockjaw, the result of an injury to his right hand in a street car wreck several weeks ago.

LIGHTNING destroyed the handsome residence of Frank Kneep of Sharon. The occupants of the house were not hurt.

Is the burning of George Hilbert's house in Wheeling, Jan. Bedman, aged 50, lost her life. Property loss was \$6,000.

SIX-YEAR-OLD Effie Young, while playing on the bank of Laurel creek, near State College fell into the water and was drowned.

JAMES BEATTY, a mail carrier, was struck by a Ft. Wayne passenger train at Escheste and was killed.

Fire destroyed the Darlington Hotel at Darlington, Beaver county. It was fully insured.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

THEODORE TILTON was born in 1825.

KOSUTH'S library will be placed in the Budapest Museum.

GLADSTONE'S slight has grown so dim he is unable to recognize friends.

FRANCIS JOSEPH, Emperor of Austria, is the now accessible monarch in Europe.

NELLIE GRANT SARGENT, daughter of President Grant, has decided to settle in Washington.

PADEREWEK, the pianist, has decided to make a third tour of the United States in January next.

MARBUS JOKAI, the great poet of Hungary, is also editor of the best comic paper of that country—the Comet.

CARTER HARRISON'S memory will be perpetuated by the tallest monument in Grace-land Cemetery, near Chicago, where his body rests.

ARTHUR BALFOUR, the Conservative leader of England, belies Lord Randolph Churchill to be the most brilliant conversationalist of the day.

SENATOR DANIEL, of Virginia, is considered to be the handsomest man in the Senate, having a patrician face and clear cut features that remind one of Booth.

EX-POSTMASTER-GENERAL JOHN WANAMAKER has purchased \$1,200,000 worth of real estate in Philadelphia during the last eight weeks, paying nearly all cash.

PRESIDENT CAYRO'S salary as chief of the French Republic has aggregated \$1,750,000, besides \$350,000 in allowances and his house rent free for seven years.

HENRY COST, M. P., the editor of William Waldorf Astor's Pall Mall Gazette, is a great society man, and counted as one of the most promising young men in the House of Commons.

SOLDIERS' COLUMN

AN ERRAND OF CHARITY.

The Kindheartedness of Two Connecticut Yankees Whose Chicken Dinner was Spoiled.



DURING the month of May, 1864, on the Potomac and Richmond fronts, three or four days before the battle of Drewry's Bluff, and about halfway between Potomac and Richmond, W. Va., my comrade and I, who belonged to the Second Brigade (Col. Griffin A. Bissell's), Second Division, Eighteenth Corps, started off to the left of the turnpike, or, in other words, deliberately swung to the left in accordance with Gen. Grant's tactics of the campaign.

About a mile and a half brought us to a farm house that had been pretty well ransacked before we arrived. Under the barn which had been overlooked, we discovered about a dozen or more hens setting quietly upon their eggs, not knowing that the order had gone forth "that the rebellion must be put down if it took the last chicken in the Confederacy."

My comrade crawled under the barn and passed out the hens, through which you could see daylight so far had they been reduced, living on short rations and nobly doing duty for the Confederacy. He kept me busy wringing their necks, after which we tied their legs together, swung them over his shoulders, and started back to the turnpike, congratulating ourselves upon what a nice chicken dinner we should have when we got back to our command. But our jubilant expectations were prematurely demolished by the direct order of a General.

Just as we emerged from the thicket on the left of the turnpike we came in contact with Benjamin F. Butler! The General beckoned to us to come up to where he was sitting on his horse.

After saluting him very respectfully, and trembling very perceptibly, the first question asked was:

"Where did you get those chickens?"

My comrade, acting as spokesman, replied: "At the farm-house to the left, about a mile and a half from here."

The next question was a poser.

"What are you going to do with them?"

We thought we were in for it, and we should be punished for capturing old setting hens, whereas nice fat chickens might have passed with the General as a legitimate spoil of war, so my chain replied:

"We are going to take them back to the hospital for the sick and wounded." The hospital was about six miles to the rear.

The General called an Orderly, who was mounted, and gave him the following general order: "Orderly, go back to the hospital with these men, and see that they deliver those chickens to the Surgeon in charge."

If a cannon-ball had struck us we could not have felt more crestfallen. The next morning we were escorted back to our command, where we related to the commander of Drewry's Bluff, on the morning of the 16th of May, 1864.

I saw Gen. Butler upon one occasion after that, which brought vividly to my mind that lost anticipated chicken dinner.—G. W. FORD, in "National Tribune."

Farragut in the Rigging at Mobile.

A great deal has been written relative to the position of Farragut in the Mobile fight, and the incident of getting the rigging has occasioned considerable controversy. Certainly, no question concerning the post occupied by Farragut could arise among those who were on board the flagship and witnessed the engagement.

In the port main-rigging, a few rattines above the stowage, which could clearly observe all that was transpiring about him, stood Farragut. As the smoke increased rolling above and around the admiral, he mounted the main-rigging higher and higher, until his head was level with the buttrock beam. At that point Capt. Drayton, fearing some accident might occur, sent Knowles with a piece of new lead line to make the admiral more secure. This honest old sailor, in speaking of the incident, in 1860, at which time he was quarter-master on the U. S. steamer "Phlox," stationed at the Naval Academy, expressed himself as follows:

"Pilot Freeman, who was apt to talk too much, I knew very well, but that man Baldwin, who yams it about the admiral and puts him in the starboard main-rigging, under the top, he does not know what he is writing about. I was chief quartermaster of the 'Hartford' and the man that lashed the admiral to the rigging, and I ought to know something about it."

"When we got up close to the forts, I heard Mr. Kimberly, the executive officer, tell Mr. Watson, our flag-lieutenant, to have a rope passed around the admiral. I was busy at the time with some signal flags for the monitors, when I was ordered to go up the port main-rigging and put a rope around the admiral. I cut a fathom or two from a new lead line which was lying on the deck, went up the rattines to where the admiral was standing, with field-glasses in his hand, just under the buttrock shrouds, and made the forward end of the line fast. As I took the after end around the admiral, he passed the remark that the rope was not necessary, but I went on and made the after end secure. I don't think he noticed the rope around him, as we were square abreast of Fort Morgan, and it was pretty hot work; but when the ships got clear of the forts, the admiral had to cast the rope astern before he could come down."—"Union Jack" in Blue and Gray for March.

FEET USED AS HANDS.

Natives of India Perform Some Remarkable Acts.

In the native quarters of the towns of India the strange spectacle may be seen of a butcher seizing a piece of meat in his hands and cutting it in two with a stroke of his knife held between the first and second toes of his foot. The shoemaker uses no last, but turns the unfinished shoe with his feet, while his hands are busy in shaping it. So the carpenter holds with his great toe the board he is cutting, and the wood turner handles his tools as well with his toes as with his fingers.

This use of the feet to assist the hands in their labor is not, however, the mere result of practice, but is principally due to the fact that the Hindoo foot is quite different from ours in its anatomical conformation. The ankle of the Hindoo, and the articulation of the back of the foot, permit considerable lateral motion. The toes possess a surprising mobility. The great toe can be moved freely in all directions, and the first and second toes are separated by a wide space, sometimes as much as five-eighths of an inch across at the base of the toes and two inches at their extremities. The articulation of the hip is also peculiar, and this renders it easier to use the toes in handling the objects by enabling the Hindoo to sit in a squatting posture much more comfortably than we can do.